



# CITY OF REDMOND TRAILS COMMISSION



## Trails Commission Meeting MINUTES — March 29, 2006

Old Redmond Schoolhouse Community Center

**TRAILS COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Chairperson Smith; Co-Chair Barnfather; Commissioners Bechmann, Scott, McDonald, Eades, Youth Advocate, Pfaff.

**LATE ARRIVAL:** Barnfather and Scott

**CITY STAFF:** Tim Cox, Park Planning Manager; Linda Gorremans, Park Planner; Chris Tolonen, Park Maintenance Lead; and Sharon Sato, Recording Secretary.

**AUDIENCE:** 1 - Dan Crawford - citizen who maintains personal website relating to bike trails for recreational uses in Redmond and Bellevue, whose website focus is favorable biking areas.

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*Note: Bold/italic text denotes Staff and Commissioner follow-up resulting from this meeting.*

### I. **CALL TO ORDER**

The Trails Commission meeting was called to order by Chairperson Smith at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall Building, Council Conference Room.

### II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion to approve the February 22, 2006 RTC as presented:**  
Commissioner Eades

**Second by:** Commissioner Bechmann

**Motion carried:** Unanimous 4-0

### III. **ITEMS FROM THE AUDIENCE/HANDOUTS**

#### A. Community Connections to Council & Mayor

A copy of the memo was sent to the Mayor and Council highlighting completed trails and connections, per Commission direction.

B. Trailbuilders Conference, Reno, NV.

Gorremans invited Commissioners to review trail building materials she gathered while attending the conference in April. Soft surface/back country trail building was highlighted, as well as, other trail building techniques and materials.

C. East Lake Sammamish Trail Opening

Cox reported the opening ceremony of the East Lake Sammamish Trail hosted by King County, held on March 22, 2006, was successful. Eades, who attended, noted the function was well attended.

D. Council Approval on the Leary Way Trail Connection at SR520

Eades reported City Council approval on the Leary Way Trail connection at SR520. Once construction begins, completion is targeted for a little over two weeks.

**V. DISCUSSION AND REPORTS**

A. Maintenance and Operations Report - Chris Tolonen

Tolonen – Park Operations Lead Maintenance Worker, gave an update on spring and summer trail maintenance projects.

Watershed Preserve

- Williams Pipeline - replacement of gas pipeline
- Meeting with Williams' representatives last week
- Project will begin in early June
- 4-6 weeks completion
- Work from north to south end - starting at 133rd Street to south
- Coordinating with Williams, appropriate placement of signage and public notification
- Trail closure will depend on location and speed of construction
- Temporary closure on north end
- Replacement of 24" to 36" pipe
- Sections 40'-80' long
- Restoration coordinated with Parks Planning and MOC staff - trail condition will be restored to current or better standards
- Widening of trail corridor to original width - some trees will be removed to accommodate new width
- Pipeline and Trillium Trails will be impacted

Bechmann inquired if the Williams Company had experience in constructing/replacing soft surface trails. Tolonen responded that he had previously worked with the company and felt they had done an excellent job. Cox added that a one year inspection period would be part of the contract.

#### Farrel McWhirter Park Trails

- Mackey Creek continues to negatively affect trails – staff is making adjustments accordingly
- Power Line Trail approaching Nicholls Trails, slight wash out over trail - an equalizing culvert will be installed
- Meadow Trail from Mackey Creek Bridge to arena area - culvert to divert water under trail
- Upper perimeter trail - drainage rock will be installed during drier weather - late spring, early summer
- Switchback - resurface with 3" crushed rock, minor fence amendments to divert trail users from using old trail - old trail bed will be replanted and minor fencing repaired
- Nicholls Trail - drainage and surfacing rock added on section north of Mackey Creek
- Second bridge on the Lowland Trail had a severe washout, staff to back fill bridge footing

#### Power Line Trail

- Good shape
- Wet condition at 116th Street connector - Cobblestone development
- Small repair - additional surface rock will be added during dryer weather

#### Viewpoint Open Space Trail

- Water coming out of embankment in neighborhood
- Three locations have been identified as needing culvert - replacement during drier weather

Smith inquired if signage vandalism was a problem. Tolonen responded sign vandalism was an infrequent problem, however small litter and dog problems were somewhat of an issue. Dogs in the Watershed are prohibited, however, there have been some problems related to off leash dogs and citizen complaints. More complaints have been directed to small litter. Tolonen noted that although additional trash receptacles might help, it would mean additional maintenance. Smith suggested trash bag stations might be one solution and might help educate and promote user participation.

Tolonen added that dogs are not allowed in the Watershed, along with that, owners will also allow dogs to run off leash conflicting with users that do not bring their dogs into the Preserve, and it is also a conflict with bicyclists and equestrians. The Park is considered a Wildlife Preserve.

Evans Creek Trail Maintenance

- Minimal trail maintenance
- Moss removal using vinegar and water solution

Town Center Trail Corridor

- Perimeter trail partially maintained by Parks MOC staff
- Root damage is a problem
- Ditch witch used to run along side of trail to prune roots
- Cottonwood roots are a problem trying to come up under the asphalt
- Staff has been in contact with Macerich (Town Center owners) to discuss maintenance issues.

B. Election of Officers

Motion by: Barnfather to nominate Smith for a consecutive term of office as Chair for the Trails Commission

Second by: McDonald

Motion Carried: 5-0

Motion by: McDonald to nominate Barnfather for a consecutive term of office as Vice Chair

Second by: Eades

Motion by: Barnfather to nominate McDonald as Vice Chair

Second by: Scott

Vote: Barnfather – 4

McDonald - 2

Motion Carried Unanimously: Smith and Barnfather will serve as Chair and Vice Chair for the 2006-2007 Commission year.

C. Trail Connections – Handout

Smith noted the Bike-Ped Committee's request to add to the "draft" list:

- Cost estimates for construction and maintenance costs (feasible within budget limitations). Figures should be in a "ballpark" range. Land acquisition can be part of the cost estimate; however is dependant upon the situation.

Removed from list:

- Bridle Crest Trail improvements taken out, currently being worked on, not a new connector.
- Leary Way Bike Path: SR520 to Sammamish River Trail – #10 - completed.

Cox suggested adding trail projects to the priority list would ensure addition to the 1-3 yr. or 4-6 yr. Park Improvement Plan (PIP), which would in turn ensure addition to the Parks CIP, request funding to implement the PIP.

Education Hill and North Redmond Neighborhoods

- #1 NE 116<sup>th</sup> Street north to NE 124<sup>th</sup> – possible planned residential developments could implement segments of trail. Portion west of creek, connecting to 116<sup>th</sup> north, needs to be constructed with City monies over Northstar easement.
- #2 Valley View Trail - on old sewer line, exact trail location, connections need to be made over creek, possibilities of connections to Avondale Road, research ownership, survey work, a portion will be built by Avondale PRD.
- #3 Redmond 74 – north of Puget Power Trail and Red-Wood Road, future project, connects to Puget Power Trail, monitor, no City monies.

Willows/Rose Hill Neighborhood

- #4 Connect PSE Trail west to 132<sup>nd</sup> Ave. NE – on Trails Master Plan, needs study, topographical challenge.
- #5 PSE Trail connection south to Willows Creek Park on 142<sup>nd</sup> Ave. NE

Bear Creek Neighborhood

- #6 FM Park to Watershed Preserve on PP Trail – missing link, final section has been purchased, KC working on language between PP for construction and maintenance, no monies allocated for development, needs to be more highly prioritized by King County.
- #7 Trail Connect to Red Brick Road – Lakeside Development amenable to provide land, City needs to determine safest route.
- #8 East Lake Sammamish connect between 70<sup>th</sup> St. and SR520 – connect through intersection, before elevated cross over, completion date not finalized, south of Fred

Meyer, plans for possible pedestrian fly over in distant future, referenced in PRO Plan.

Downtown

- #9 Trail at Bear Creek Park – Behind Safeway, monitor.
- #10 Leary Way Bicycle Path at SR520 to Sammamish River – bid only, anticipated completion of project in eight weeks.

Commission priorities as discussed:

- 1 - #6 – FM to Watershed
- 2 - #4 – Connect PSE Trail west to 132nd
- 3 - #7 – Trail connect to Red Brick Road
- 4 - #3 – Redmond 74
- 5 - #8 – East Lake Sammamish Trail – connect between NE 70<sup>th</sup> Street and SR 520, and future connection to Bear Creek Trail
- 6 - #1 – NE 116<sup>th</sup> north to NE 124<sup>th</sup>
- 7 - #5 – PSE rail connect south to Willows Creek Park
- 8 - #2 – Valley View Trail
- 9 - #9 – Trail at Bear Creek Park
- 10 - #10- Leary Way Bike path

Eades noted the Overlake Neighborhood area was not mentioned and future plans for trail connections into the City's trail system need to be made.

Commissioners agreed to research one or more of the top ten connector priorities and write up a short description for each including progress, needs, and success measurement for one year, Gorremans will review, edit and add technical information.

McDonald	#4 and #5.
Barnfather	#6 and #1
Smith	#7
Bechmann	#2
Eades	#3
Scott	#8
XXX	#9 and #10

Staff asked Commissioners to e-mail paragraph descriptions to Gorremans. Descriptions are due by April 12th. Staff will also be looking at implementation measures to add to each project. Comments are to be in bullet form.

D. Joint Meeting with Park Board and Arts Commission

Dates in April or May have been suggested. April 19 and May 17 and 24. Cox asked members to choose three preferred dates from each month and e-mail to Sharon Sato.

Smith asked for joint meeting topics. Cox suggested trails projects, with voter appeal, that might influence the proposed bond. Cox invited the Commission to look for possible projects in their PRO Plan, Trail Master Plan, and Facilities Plan (current trails and long term trail projects).

Cox asked for Commission volunteers to serve on the Bond Committee. He also mentioned that in the event the proposed levy did not pass, a bond would likely not go before the public.

Barnfather asked if staff would e-mail the current CIP list. ***Cox will have staff create a list of possible current trail projects and e-mail to Commissioners.***

E. Trails Adjacent to Streams in North Redmond

Cox reported that staff would like to write a memo requesting that the legend and symbols for the North Redmond Neighborhood map, produced by the Planning Dept., be identified and correspond to the current parks map in language and symbols, adding terms such as, "backbone trail", "connector trails", "soft surface multi-use trails", and "hiking trails".

Cox will also ask that all property lines be removed from the map.

D. PRO Plan Update – No report

E. Project Reports

- a. Slough Park – No report
- b. Evans Creek Trail – No report
- c. Trail at Bear Creek Park – received \$373,000 bid from Dennis R. Craig, engineers estimate - \$460,000, Council to award bid on April 4.
- d. Bear Creek at Avondale – No report
- e. Williams Pipeline – No report
- f. Trails on utility easement – No report
- g. West Park/Sammamish River Trail Improvements – No report
- h. 520 Ext. to Sammamish River Trail – No report
- i. Bear Creek Trail at Avondale - Council gave permission to purchase parcel and trail easement north of Union Hill Road, Gorremans to write an IAC development grant.

E. Other

McDonald reported he had again spoken to the new building owners for the Westpark Building west of the Sammamish River Bridge in regards to the landscaping on the Westside of the Sammamish River. Gorremans reported she had spoken to City staff and was informed that the City cannot and have not required any developer to do trail improvements along the west side due to King County ownership.

Cox suggested McDonald contact Robert Foxworthy, Trail Coordinator for King County, to further discuss and give some direction as to landscaping. ***Staff will also e-mail McDonald County contact numbers.***

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Recording Secretary, Sharon Sato

<b>Audiotapes of regular Trails Commission meetings are available at the Parks and Recreation Office at (425) 556-2311.</b>
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**THE NEXT REDMOND TRAILS COMMISSION MEETING:  
Wednesday, April 26, 2006  
City Hall - City Council Conference Room  
7:00 p.m.**